

Division VIII of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations

Proposed Amendments of Section 80049, and Deletion of Sections 80632, 80632.1, 80632.2, 80632.3, 80632.4, and 80632.5 Pertaining to Pupil Personnel Services

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Purpose and Rationale for Proposed Regulations

In recent years, several significant policy initiatives by the California Legislature have had important implications for the preparation and certification of Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential candidates, which include school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and child welfare and attendance providers. Last year, the Commission incorporated these initiatives into its PPS Credential standards. The revision of the existing Title 5 Regulations is a final and necessary step for the Commission to codify its policies that relate to the preparation of PPS Credential candidates.

Amendment of Section 80049

This section describes specific requirements for professional clear service credentials with a specialization in Pupil Personnel Services. The primary reason for changing the requirements for pupil personnel service providers is to update the requirements so the training received by these professionals will be current and relevant to the times. In recent years the State Legislature has directed the Commission to act on a number of policy issues that are directly related to the work of school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and child welfare and attendance providers. The Commission responded to these initiatives by appointing an advisory panel of PPS providers, parents, students and administrators to make recommendations on requirement changes needed. The Commission adopted the panel's recommendations that reflect the national norms and is now proposing that these changes be made in Title 5 Regulations.

Legislative Initiatives that Relate to PPS Credential Standards

Among the Legislative initiatives were:

(1) AB 1264 (Martinez - 1993) Partnerships with Parents, which directed the Commission to ". . . adopt standards and requirements that emphasize the preparation of prospective teachers and other certificated educators (including PPS Credential applicants) to serve as active partners with the parents and guardians of their pupils . . ."

(2) SB 2460 (Green - 1990) Safe School Environments for Learners directed the Commission to take a leadership role in addressing school violence. After the Commission did so, AB 2264 (Andal - 1993) directed the Commission to ". . . adopt standards that address principles of school safety, including, but not limited to, school management skills emphasizing crisis intervention and conflict resolution, developing and maintaining a positive and safe school climate, developing school safety plans, and developing ways to identify and defuse situations that may lead to violence ..."

- (3) AB 3188 (House - 1996) School Psychologist Field Experience Standards directed the Commission to " . . . enhance the requirements for a school psychologist credential . . ." by re-examining the field experience standards for this credential. One purpose of this legislation was to determine if California should adopt national standards.
- (4) Developing Self-esteem and Social Responsibility in Students. A legislatively-sponsored commission report entitled *Toward a State of Esteem* included several policy recommendations to increase social responsibility through improved self-esteem in children and adolescents. Several key recommendations in this legislative report were directed to the Commission. Counselors, psychologists and social workers have significant roles in developing social responsibility and healthy self-esteem.

Deletion of Sections 80632, 80632.1, 80632.2, 80632.3, 80632.4, and 80632.5

In response to each of the legislative initiatives above, the Commission has taken significant steps toward implementation of the initiatives, primarily through the development and adoption of the new PPS Credential Standards that are addressed in the proposed regulation. The above mentioned sections are no longer necessary for the implementation of the new standards.

Reports and Other Data Relied Upon in Preparing Regulations

The following reports and other data were relied upon in preparing these regulations:

- Standards and other requirements from other state credentialing agencies as well as from other colleges and universities throughout the United States
- Survey questionnaire results
- Results from focus group meetings held throughout the state
- Reports from professional organizations related to pupil services
- *Toward a State of Esteem*

The following California Legislation:

- AB 1264 (Martinez - 1993) Partnerships with Parents
- SB 2460 (Green - 1990) Safe School Environments for Learners
- AB 2264 (Andal - 1993) Commission Leadership Role in Addressing School Violence
- AB 3188 (House - 1996) School Psychologist Field Experience

Documents Incorporated by Reference

None

Alternatives Considered

At this time, a reasonable alternative to the proposed regulation has not been identified by the Commission or brought to its attention, including any that will be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons or small businesses than the proposed action. Before approving any proposed changes to the regulations, the Commission must determine that no alternative considered will be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or will be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons or small businesses than the proposed action.